



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/750,921	12/31/2003	Rance A. Winkler	14.008011 CON	1909
58732	7590	07/29/2008		
CYTYC CORPORATION 250 CAMPUS DRIVE MARLBOROUGH, MA 01752			EXAMINER LACYK, JOHN P	
			ART UNIT 3735	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/29/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/750,921

Applicant(s)

WINKLER, RANCE A.

Examiner

John P. Lacyk

Art Unit

3735

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-21 and 31-37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 22-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____

Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, claims 1-11 and 22-30 in the reply filed on 4/29/08 is acknowledged.

Claims 12-21 and 37-37 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 4/29/08.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 22-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 22, 28 and 29 are dependent on claims that have been withdrawn from consideration making it unclear what correct dependencies should be. It appears that claims 22-30 were intended to be dependent on claims 19-21 which are directed to a brachytherapy device, however the preamble of claims 22-30 are directed to "The spacing apparatus" and not "The brachytherapy apparatus" as seen in dependent claims 20-21. Further claims 22-30 correspond to claims 3-11 and would be duplicates if dependent on claim 1. As such claims 22-30 will not be further addressed until clarification is stated.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 3735

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5, 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Williams et al (5,913,813).

Williams et al discloses a catheter for treatment of proliferative tissue using brachytherapy. Williams et al discloses a spacing element or apparatus (36) in the form of an expandable balloon, which is "integrally formed" with the insertion member (12) and positions the brachytherapy device at a distance apart from the surrounding tissue, equal to the height of the balloon. The spacing element is movable between a deflated closed position and an inflated open position. Williams et al further teaches that the spacing element forms a radio-opaque barrier between the brachytherapy device and the surrounding tissue when expanded (column 2, lines 49-50).

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams et al in view of applicant's own specification.

Williams et al discloses the claimed device except for the spacing element being disk-shaped in the open position. Applicant states that it would be obvious to provide a spacing element of "any shape, such as square, oval, rectangular, etc., and can be flat

or three dimensional" (page 10, lines 6-7) as determined by the desired use of the device. Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided the catheter as disclosed by Williams et al with a spacing element embodying any of a variety of shapes, including disk-shaped or spherical, depending on the desired use of the device.

Claims 7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams et al in view of Flexmedics Brochure.

Williams et al discloses the claimed device except for specifically using a shape memory material. The Flexmedics Brochure teaches that it is well known to use a shape memory material with many different medical devices including catheters. Therefore a modification of Williams et al such that the spacing element or balloon catheter is made from a shape memory material would have been obvious to one skilled in the art in view of the teachings of Flexmedics which shows that such a material is well known in the art. Further one would have been motivated to modify the Williams et al device since this would be the mere substitution of one known way to inflate the balloon for another and allow the balloon to inflate without the need for using a fluid to inflate.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John P. Lacyk whose telephone number is (571)272-4728. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chuck Marmor, II can be reached on 571-272-4730. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

J.P. Lacyk

/John P Lacyk/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3735